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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

CHRONOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF  
AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47  
ORENBURG, USSR

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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## CHRONOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47, ORENBURG, USSR

### INTRODUCTION

This report is a study of the chronological development of Airframe Plant No 47 [redacted] 51-48N 55-06E, Orenburg, USSR, based on information compiled from all available photography of the plant through [redacted]

[redacted] Plant No 47 is located in the northeast suburbs of Orenburg (Figure 1). It is adjacent to the south side of Orenburg Airfield, which has 2 natural-surface runways. Other transportation services include an extensive network of rail spurs, which connect with 2 major rail lines, and a network of good all-weather roads.

Since initial photographic coverage by [redacted] Mission [redacted] Plant No 47 (Figures 2-6) has been undergoing a large and apparently well planned construction program. The completion of many new buildings, additions to some of the older buildings, and current construction of 2 large buildings (items 32 and 80) will more than double the plant's original size. 1/

A firm statement as to the present production activities of Airframe Plant No 47 cannot be made, due to inadequate photographic evidence. Aircraft production cannot be confirmed or negated on the basis of either [redacted]

[redacted] photography. Since the newly constructed facilities are of a type not usually associated with aircraft production, it is possible to conclude that Plant No 47 may not be producing aircraft. Missile production is a very definite probability because of the identification of large numbers of probable cruise-missile shipping crates (see Figure 4 and Table 1). These crates have the same general configuration as cruise-missile shipping crates which have been seen at missile sites in the USSR, Cuba, and China. Their overall measurements also are close to those of previously identified cruise-missile shipping crates. The crates are located near a transshipment building (item 64) and a carpenter shop (item 65). The construction of 2 possible horizontal test buildings (items 25 and 27) and a checkout building (item 3), the presence of long rail cars, and the stringent security measures taken both during and after construction of new

facilities suggest an association of the plant with the Soviet missile program.

The building-by-building construction history of the plant is presented graphically in Figure 6 and in tabular form in Table 2, which also provides chronological details and interpretations of the basic functions of all structures in the plant; all item numbers are keyed to Figure 6 and Table 2.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47

#### 1960

Airframe Plant No 47 was first observed on [redacted] photography of [redacted] at which time its major fac-

ilities consisted of a large assembly building (item 57), a large assembly/shop building (item 56), 3 shop buildings (items 55, 65, and 76), a large foundry (item 36), a transformer yard (item 4), and 2 steamplants (items 31 and 74). Expansion of the plant was evident at this time; footings were visible for a second large assembly building (item 62) and a large transshipment building (item 58). A possible test building (item 25) and a processing building (item 23) were also under construction.

#### 1962

[redacted] photography of [redacted] provided the first photographic coverage of Plant No 47 since [redacted] and revealed continued expansion of facilities. The transshipment building (item 58) had been completed, and some progress had been made on the second large assembly building (item 62). Two small processing buildings (items 5 and 7) were observed under construction. In [redacted] a warehouse (item 59) was observed under construction. [redacted] the processing buildings (items 5, 7, and 23) and the possible test building (item 25) were completed.

#### 1963

Significant construction occurring during the year included the completion of a new section joining 2 aircraft hangars to form a single new shop building (item 20), the completion of the second large assembly building (item 62), and the completion of the warehouse (item 59).

#### 1964

Construction activity was relatively light until [redacted] when a second possible test building (item 27), a second large assembly/shop building (item 28), and a laboratory/administration building (item 29) were first observed under construction. Also at this time it was evident that a new section would be added to the large assembly building first observed in [redacted] (item 57).

#### 1965

A considerable increase in construction activity was noted during the year. The second possible test building

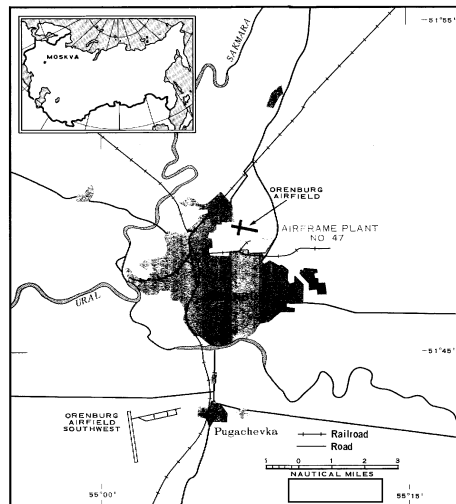


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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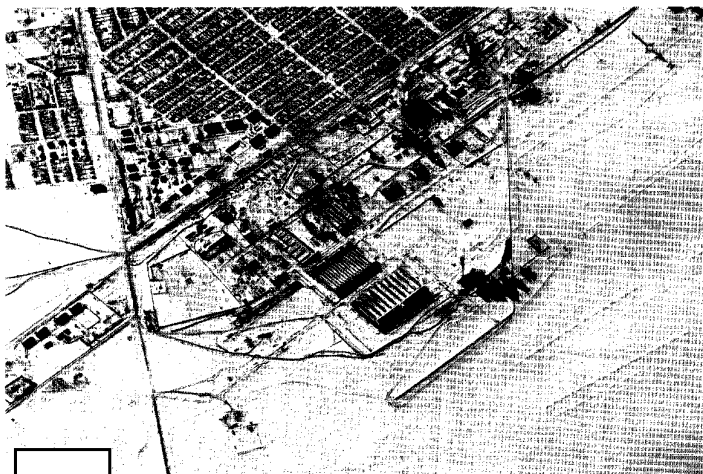


FIGURE 2. AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47, ORENBURG, USSR.



FIGURE 3. AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47, ORENBURG, USSR.

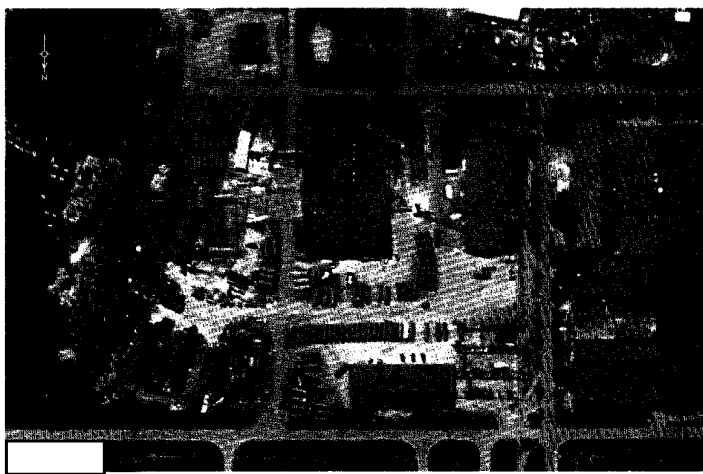


FIGURE 4. PROBABLE CRUISE-MISSILE CRATES AT AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47, ORENBURG, USSR.

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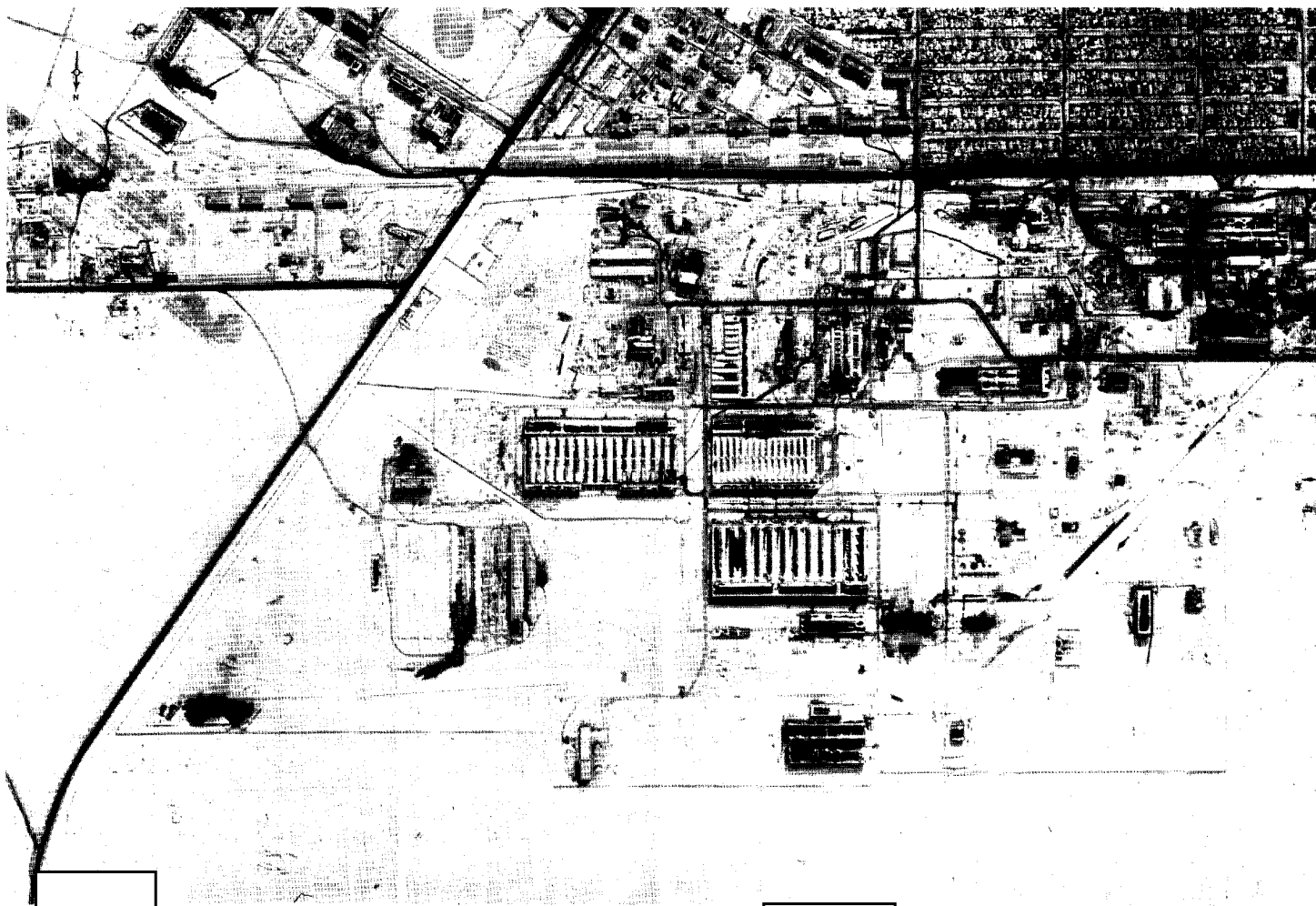
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FIGURE 5. AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47, ORENBURG, USSR

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Table 2. Data on Facilities of Airframe Plant No 47, Orenburg, USSR  
(Item numbers are keyed to Figure 6)

Item No	Probable Function	Dimensions (ft) L W H	Roof Cover (sq ft)	Date First Observed	Date Complete	Comments	Item No	Probable Function	Dimensions (ft) L W H	Roof Cover (sq ft)	Date First Observed	Date Complete	Comments
1	Revetted storage bldg	30 25 ---	750			A small bunker is located nearby. Contains 2 small bays each rail served and connected by rail with item 3; equipped with a lightning arrester. Served by 5 rail spurs 4 of which pass through the bldg to connect with a rail spur from item 2; equipped with 2 lightning arresters.	36	Foundry	Irregular ---	83,825			Probably serves as a shop bldg
2	Special-storage bldg	110 95 ---	10,450				37	Shop bldg	Irregular ---	13,400			
3	Checkout bldg	270 85 50	22,950				38	Shop bldg	115 60 ---	6,900			
4	Transformer yard	--- --- ---	---				39	Hangar	120 105 ---	12,600			
5	Processing bldg	70 40 ---	2,800				40	Administration bldg	Irregular ---	7,225			
6	Utility shed	40 20 ---	800				41	Administration bldg	Irregular ---	11,150			
7	Processing bldg	165 60 ---	9,900				42	Shop bldg	100 70 ---	7,000			
8	2 Helicopter pads	--- --- ---	---				43	Warehouse	100 35 ---	3,500			
9	Open storage area	--- --- ---	---				44	Warehouse	100 35 ---	3,500			
10	Hangar	135 125 ---	16,875				45	Warehouse	100 45 ---	4,500			
11	Administration bldg	70 60 ---	4,200			Equipped with a lightning arrester; probably connected by underground pipeline with item 23. Receiving area for incoming materials; served by rail spur and overhead cranes. Bldg expanded between [ ] and [ ].	46	Warehouse	100 35 ---	3,500			Serves 2 underground water tanks
12	Administration bldg	50 45 ---	2,250				47	Warehouse	100 35 ---	3,500			
13	2 Utility bldgs	50 45 ---	4,500				48	Warehouse	100 35 ---	3,500			
14	Utility bldg	105 40 ---	4,200				49	Warehouse	100 35 ---	3,500			
15	Utility bldg	30 15 ---	450				50	Pumphouse	65 30 ---	1,950			
16	Utility bldg	70 30 ---	2,100				51	2 Utility bldgs	40 25 ---	2,000			
17	Administration bldg	Irregular	10,050				52	Foundry	Irregular ---	23,500			
18	Utility bldg	70 30 ---	2,100				53	Utility bldg	40 40 ---	1,600			
19	Utility bldg	70 30 ---	2,100				54	Utility bldg	20 20 ---	400			
20	Shop bldg	Irregular	86,875				55	Shop bldg	Irregular ---	119,345			
21	Utility bldg	45 45 ---	2,025			Partially revetted; equipped with a lightning arrester and 2 vent/burn-off stacks. Consists of at least 5 underground storage tanks served by 6 rail offloading points and a pumphouse; a lightning arrester is also located in this area. Possibly contains 3 small horizontal test cells. Possibly contains 2 small horizontal test cells. Connected with item 28 by a covered walkway.	56	Assembly/shop bldg	645 430 55	277,350			Rail served. Served by a rail spur which enters the west side of the bldg. New section added between Sep [ ] bldg is served by 2 rail spurs one of which enters bldg. Rail served and served by an overhead crane. Rail served. Carpenter shop for building the shipping crates; new section added between [ ] and [ ]. Connected with item 63 (shop bldg).
22	Utility bldg	70 30 ---	2,100				57	Assembly bldg	Irregular ---	445,700			
23	Processing bldg	Irregular	13,200				58	Transshipment bldg	400 115 ---	46,000			
24	Fuel storage area	--- --- ---	---				59	Warehouse	240 40 ---	9,600			
25	Possible test bldg	Irregular	4,225				60	2 Utility bldgs	100 35 ---	7,000			
26	Steamplant	160 40 ---	6,400				61	Shop bldg	330 55 ---	18,150			
27	Possible test bldg	100 75 ---	7,500				62	Assembly bldg	Irregular ---	398,825			
28	Assembly/shop bldg	480 235 55	112,800				63	Shop bldg	200 70 ---	14,000			
29	Laboratory/administration bldg	[ ]	12,000				64	Transshipment bldg	240 80 ---	19,200			
30	Revetted storage bldg	30 20 ---	600				65	Shop bldg	220 165 ---	36,300			
31	Steamplant	Irregular	17,500			Served by an overhead crane system; rail served. Doubled in size between [ ] and [ ] rail served. Probably temporary construction bldg.	66	Spray pond	--- --- ---	---			
32	Large bldg u/c	--- --- ---	---				67	Warehouse	100 40 ---	4,000			
33	Utility bldg	40 25 ---	1,000				68	Shop bldg	95 60 ---	5,700			
34	Utility bldg	30 20 ---	600				69	Warehouse	100 40 ---	4,000			
35	2 Utility bldgs	40 20 ---	1,600				70	Utility bldg	Irregular ---	2,700			
							71	Utility bldg	60 55 ---	3,300			
							72	Warehouse	120 65 ---	7,800			
							73	Utility bldg	100 30 ---	3,000			
							74	Steamplant	200 80 ---	16,000			
							75	Utility bldg	100 35 ---	3,500			
							76	Shop bldg	Irregular ---	70,600			
							77	Utility bldg	40 20 ---	800			
							78	Laboratory/engi-neering bldg	240 60 ---	14,400			
							79	Warehouse	200 40 ---	8,000			
							80	Large bldg u/c	--- --- ---	---			
							81	Control point	--- --- ---	---			

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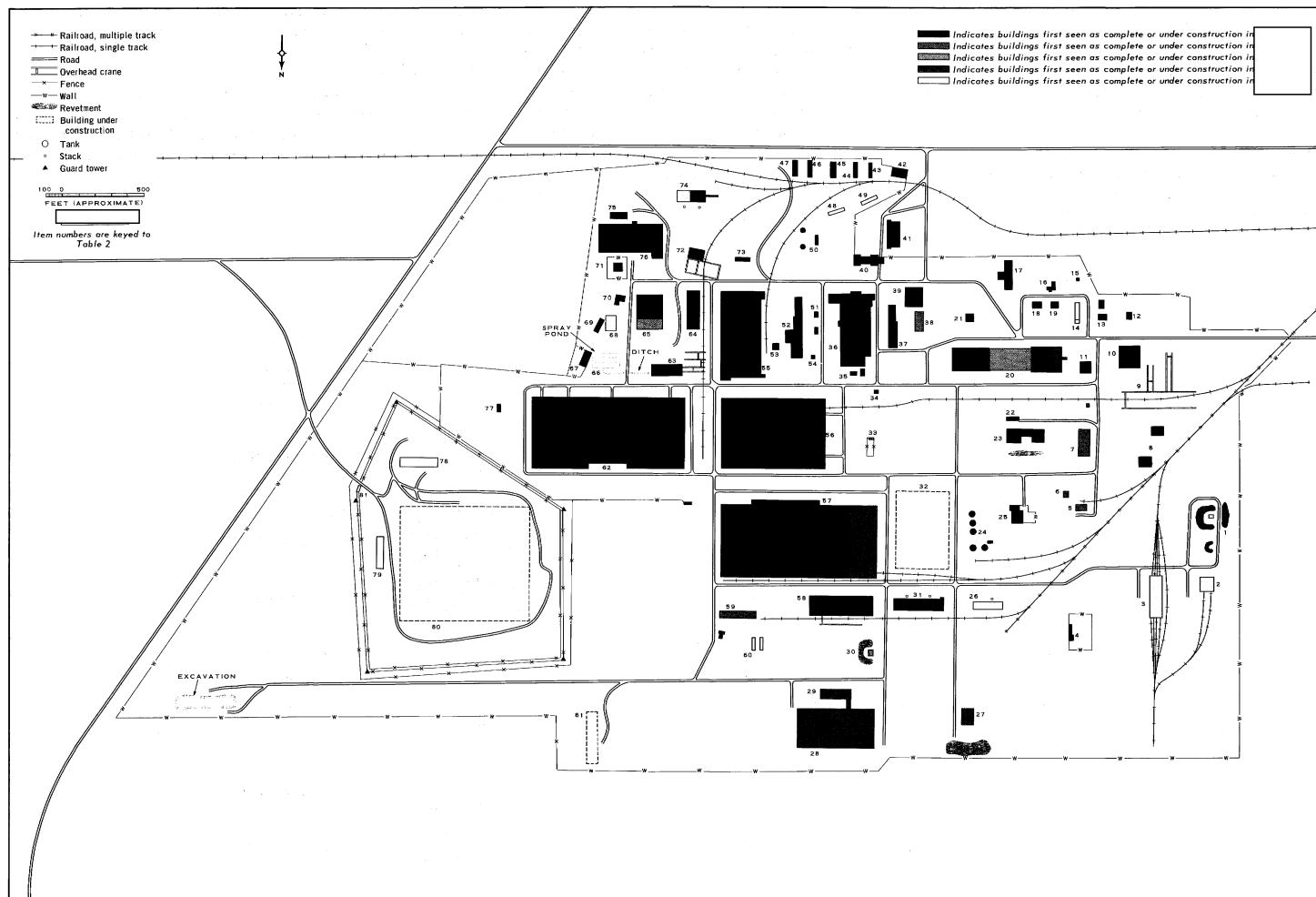
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FIGURE 6. LAYOUT OF AIRFRAME PLANT NO 47.

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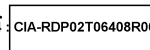
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(item 27) was completed by [ ] and a small revetted storage building (item 1), a special-storage building (item 2), a checkout building (item 3), and a small steamplant (item 26) were observed under construction. A laboratory/engineering building (item 78) and a very large building (item 80) were in a very early stage of construction in [ ]

#### 1966

During the year, construction activity continued to increase. The small revetted storage building (item 1) and the new section of the large assembly building (item 57)

were completed in [ ] The small steamplant (item 26), the second large assembly/shop building (item 28), and the laboratory/administration building (item 29) were complete as of [ ] At this same time a shop building (item 61), a spray pond (item 66), and a warehouse (item 79) were observed under construction. In [ ] footings for a new large building (item 32) were first noted. Also by [ ] the construction of the very large building (item 80) had become highly sensitive; the building site had been completely enclosed by a triple security fence, and guard towers had been placed at regular intervals along the innermost fence.

The special-storage building (item 2) and the checkout building (item 3) were completed by [ ]

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#### 1967

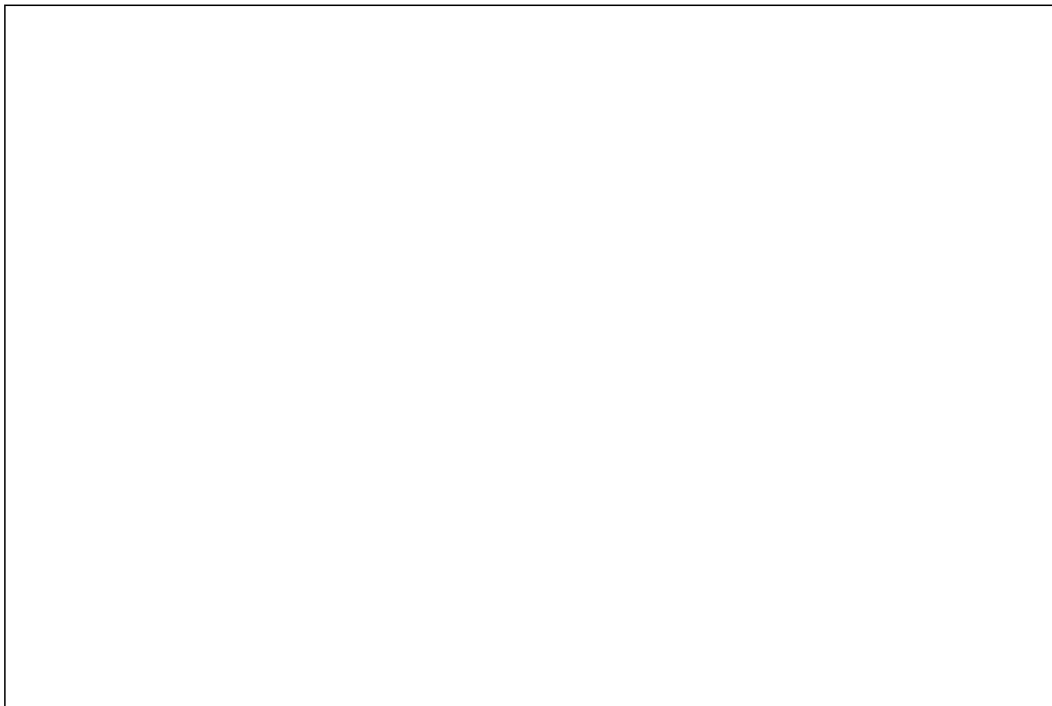
By [ ] additional construction consisted of the completion of the warehouse (item 79) and the laboratory/engineering building (item 78) and continued progress on structures previously mentioned as under construction.

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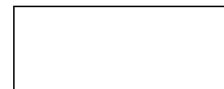
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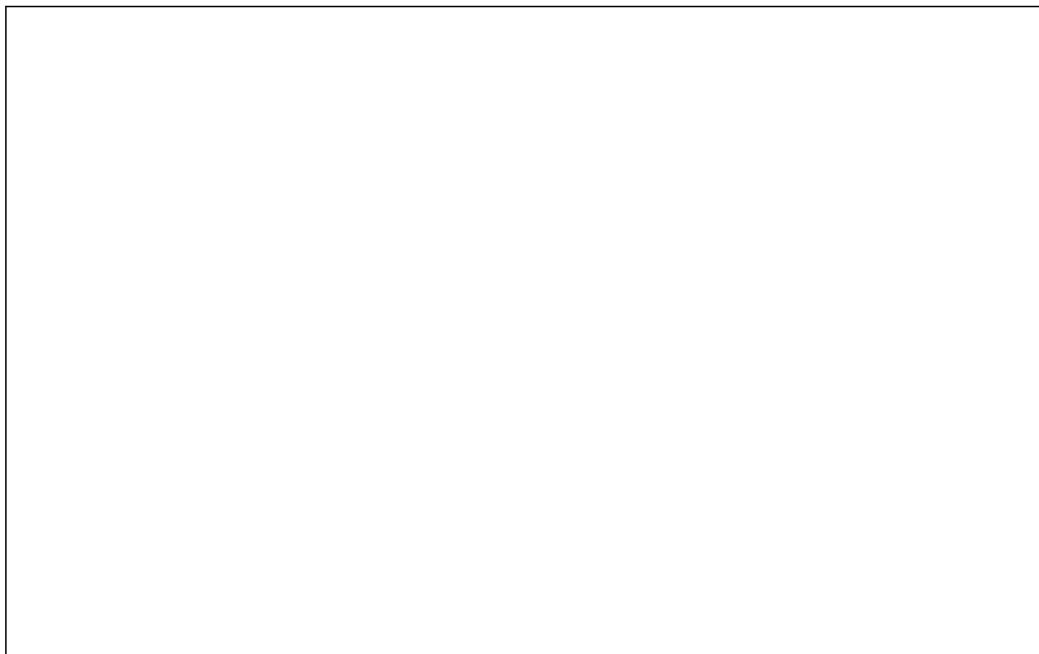
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MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC series, scale 1:200,000

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC.  *Airframe Plant No 47, Orenburg, USSR, Mar 67 (TOP SECRET* 
- NPIC.  *Airframe Plant No 47, Orenburg, USSR, Oct 66 (TOP SECRET* 

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REQUIREMENT

CIA. C-DI5-82,973

NPIC PROJECT

11212/66 (partial answer)

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